

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061339
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
NSC-05 DODE-00 H-01 /086 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:MCLISSFELT:LB
APPROVED BY EUR/SE:RCEWING
EUR/P:FSEIDNER
C:NMIMETZ
EUR:REBARBOUR
H:TWESTON

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-----050919 101354Z /53

R 092333Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SOPN, TU, GR

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL LETTER RE: GREECE AND TURKEY

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPT SPOKESMAN IS FOR
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YOUR INFORMATION. NO QUESTIONS ASKED ON THIS SUBJECT AT
NOON BRIEFING MARCH 9.

2. QUOTE: PRESS GUIDANCE: QUESTION: CAN YOU COMMENT ON
THE LETTER WHICH A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SENT TO
THE SECRETARY RECENTLY, INDICATING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE
DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS (DCAS) FOR GREECE AND TURKEY

IF THE ADMINISTRATION SOUGHT THEIR APPROVAL THIS YEAR?

ANSWER: YES, WE WELCOME THIS CLEAR INDICATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS WITH TWO KEY NATO ALLIES WHICH THE SECRETARY RECEIVED FROM SOME 19 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, INCLUDING ITS CHAIRMAN. AS YOU KNOW THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY ENDORSED IN PRINCIPLE THE DCAS FOR GREECE AND TURKEY BUT HAS NOT YET ASKED THE CONGRESS TO TAKE SPECIFIC ACTION. (THE GREEK AGREEMENT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATED AND INITIALED BUT NOT YET SIGNED.) AS THE SECRETARY INDICATED IN PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON THE FY-79 SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 21 WE ARE CURRENTLY REVIEWING A NUMBER OF FACTORS PERTINENT TO THE FUTURE OF

SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO THESE TWO NATO ALLIES. AMONG THE IMPORTANT FACTORS BEING WEIGHED ARE SECURITY ISSUES IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST, AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. WE ARE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THIS LETTER FROM A MAJORITY OF THE HIRC IS AN IMPORTANT INDICATOR OF SENTIMENT THERE. IN ANY EVENT, THE ADMINISTRATION WILL MAKE CLEAR ITS POSITION CONCERNING SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY EARLY IN APRIL WHEN IT EXPECTS TO PRESENT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONGRESS.

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QUESTION: HAVE YOU ANY COMMENT ON THE CARAMANLIS-ECEVIT MEETING THIS WEEKEND, AND IN PARTICULAR THE STATEMENT BY ECEVIT EXPRESSING "HOPE THAT THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF THE U.S. DOES NOT INFLUENCE OUR MEETING IN A NEGATIVE WAY"? (REUTERS FROM GENEVA)

ANSWER: WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE PROSPECT OF THE MEETING OF THE GREEK AND TURKISH PRIME MINISTERS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 10-11 IN MONTREUX, SWITZERLAND. WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO LAY THE FOUNDATIONS FOR STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONS OF THEIR NATIONS AND FOR PROGRESS IN SOLVING OTHER PROBLEMS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. AS FOR THE STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT, I WOULD ONLY EMPHASIZE THAT A SUCCESSFUL GREEK-TURKISH MEETING WOULD BENEFIT US ALL. UNQUOTE. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

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DRAFTED BY:EUR/SE:MCLISSFELT

APPROVED BY:EUR/SE:RCEWING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USNMR BRUSSELS

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 061339 SENT ACTION ANKARA ATHENS INFO
NICOSIA USNATO LONDON PARIS BONN USUN NEW YORK ISTANBUL
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES MAR 09.
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 061339

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3381544
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL LETTER RE: GREECE AND TURKEY
TAGS: SOPN, TU, GR
To: ANKARA ATHENS
Type: TE
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